IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Original) A method comprising:

representing a network as a logical tree having a plurality of nodes, each one of the nodes

corresponding to a component in the network and each non-root node having a parent node;

identifying two nodes in the logical tree, a first node corresponding to a first host in the network

and a second node corresponding to a second host in the network;

detecting if one of the two nodes exists at a lower level of the logical tree;

tracing a first path from the first node at the lower level to the parent node at a higher level until

the parent node is at a same level of the logical tree as the second node; and

continuing to trace the first path up the logical tree from the parent node and tracing a second

path up the logical tree from the second node until the first path and the second path meet at a

same node.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising performing an operation on data

corresponding to each one of the nodes in both paths traced up the logical tree.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the operation performed comprises managing

bandwidth for a link in the network.

4.   (Original) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for

performing a method comprising:

representing a network as a logical tree having a plurality of nodes, each one of the nodes

corresponding to a component in the network and each non-root node having a parent node;

identifying two nodes in the logical tree, a first node corresponding to a first host in the network

and a second node corresponding to a second host in the network;

detecting if one of the two nodes exists at a lower level of the logical tree;

tracing a first path from the first node at the lower level to a parent node at a higher level until

the parent node is at a same level of the logical tree as the second node; and

continuing to trace the first path up the logical tree from the parent node and tracing a second path up the logical tree from the second node until the first path and the second path meet at a same node.

5.   (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 4, further comprising computer-executable instructions for performing an operation on data corresponding to each one of the nodes in both paths traced up the logical tree.

6.   (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 5, wherein the operation performed comprises managing bandwidth for a link in the network.

7-15.   (Cancelled).